

## VASCO M. TANNER — A PUBLIC SERVANT

Calvin L. Rampton<sup>1</sup>

It is a distinct pleasure for me to participate in this issue of the *Great Basin Naturalist* honoring Dr. Vasco M. Tanner. As Governor of the State of Utah, I want to add the gratitude of the people of Utah to the praises of his friends and colleagues.

Too often men of science eschew involvement in government, which is to be regretted, because it denies the public the services of some of its most gifted and resourceful members. This decidedly is not the case with Dr. Tanner, who has been an active participant in civic affairs throughout his distinguished scientific career.

He has been an active member of the Provo Chamber of Commerce for nearly forty years, and in 1932 was designated chairman of the chamber's Conservation and Forest Committee which played a vital role in conservation projects around Provo.

He has made a singular contribution to the implementation of the multiple-use concept in our national forests as a charter member of the Uinta National Forest Civic Advisory Council, both in acquiring new lands and in preserving those lands already in the public domain.

Dr. Tanner has sought to protect Utah's interests in the Colorado River Storage Project as a member of the legislative committee of the Five Upper Basin States.

In recent years, he has served the people of Utah as a commissioner in the Parks and Recreation Department, and in 1966 received the Conservation Education Award from the Utah Wildlife Federation for his outstanding contributions to the wise use and management of the nation's resources.

This remarkable man has served in elective as well as appointive office. He was a member of the Utah House of Representatives. He has developed wide ranging intellectual interests beyond natural science in the fields of history and religion, as his term as national president of the Sons of the Utah Pioneers attests. Certain Dr. Vasco M. Tanner's career epitomizes the ideal of professional and civic service.

I know I convey the gratitude of the people of Utah for his unceasing labors in their behalf and extend their best wishes for a continued vigorous and productive life.

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